

Oct 8 1930

Humor

Bill Cleverly's story of the half wit in the Southern family who was told that when company came not to say a word or the visitors would know he was a fool. A guest asked him several questions to each of which successively he gave no answer. Finally guest in exasperation exclaimed "You're a fool". The half wit turned to his mother and said "Ma! I knew I was a fool an' I never said nothin'."

Understandings

Lewis Hackett said today that Rajchman warned the Italian ministry of Foreign Affairs to beware of R.F., that they were pushing American personnel and selling American material. Ministry asked Health Min. for list personnel + found that Paris green was bought in Germany. Also Rajchman has pushed detailed plans for International Malaria School in Italy without saying a word to us. This marks the end of my confidence in him: at least I am on my guard.

Forecasts

Mason will be disappointed with my inaccuracy and my slowness. He is impatient of things because they lack clarity. He is impulsive and courageous but not reflective, consecutive nor far-continuing in his thought. His sympathies are limited sharply to his own experience

(cont)

and are deep and intuitive. He seems fond of Specht who is slow and gentle and thoughtful. Mason likes to drive automobiles — accurate, mechanical, requiring close attention, and giving the sensation of change and progress. He meets people with a hard and direct look. Curses himself for not acting and thinking earlier — he is a man to whom Time and Movement are important.

These rambling notes suggest things I'd like to know —

What are a man's satisfactions

amusements

small interests or hobbies —

What irritates him? What angers him?

To what qualities does he aspire or what does he admire in others.
What are the defects of his qualities

In what does he deceive himself in self-estimation?

What is childish in him?

What are his strongest motives —

with Mason

My ^{cue} is to know a great deal and to be very clear ^{+ accurate} in statement — pointing always to what can be done — but not too soon, lest he check me for a virtue which in him is almost a fault.